

COUNCILMEMBER SHERRI S. LIGHTNER

CITY OF SAN DIEGO – COUNCIL DISTRICT 1

Press Release

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Council's Land Use and Housing Committee moves forward to streamline process for Community Gardens

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San Diego --- Councilmember Sherri Lightner, Chair of the Council's Land Use and Housing Committee, announced today that the City is moving forward with proposals that will make it easier to plant community gardens in the City of San Diego.

"My Council colleagues and I have heard from many residents throughout the City about the importance of being able to plant community gardens. For too long, there have been obstacles in the permitting process that have made it nearly impossible to plant these types of gardens," Lightner said.

"Soon residents will have the opportunity to work together on projects that will provide health benefits by improving access to affordable fresh fruits and vegetables and also foster community pride," Lightner added.

At today's Land Use and Housing Committee meeting, the Development Services Department staff presented an update on proposed amendments to community gardens regulations that will make it easier to plant these gardens in commercial zones throughout the City. The proposed regulations will allow community gardens in commercial zones.

City staff will be presenting this proposal to the community for their input, including the Code Monitoring Team, the Community Planners Committee and the Planning Commission, prior to consideration by the City Council. A draft of proposed regulations will also be circulated to interested parties, including all community planning group members.

"We're looking forward to partnering with citizens to make community gardens a reality. We encourage all residents with an interest in community gardens to participate in the community meetings on this topic or contact our office to share their input," Lightner concluded.

For more information on community gardens, please visit www.sandiego.gov/cd1.

Sherri Lightner is the Councilmember for Council District One of the City of San Diego, which includes the communities of Black Mountain Ranch, Carmel Valley, Del Mar Mesa, La Jolla, Pacific Highlands Ranch, Rancho Peñasquitos, Torrey Hills, Torrey Highlands, Torrey Pines, and University City. She took office December 8, 2008.